



OCTOBER 2022

Office of Federal Emergency Relief Programs (OFERP)

Notes to the Field



Upcoming
Events and
Deadlines

Office Hours have resumed!

Please join us the first Thursday of the month at 9:00am. [Click here to register](#). The office hours are open to all but designed for applicant coordinators, and business managers. Hoping to see you at 9:00am on November 3, 2022.

PROGRAM NOTES

Sub grant to Support Students Experiencing Homelessness and/or Multilingual Learners

The Maine Department of Education (DOE), through federal emergency relief funds, is providing the opportunity for eligible school administrative units (SAUs) to apply for additional funding to support the needs of students actively experiencing homelessness and/or multilingual learners who have been impacted by the pandemic. [SAU allocations](#) are available on our website and the application is available on the [GEMS portal](#). The purpose of the funding is to:

- Provide supports and services for students experiencing homelessness, and to engage with families and prepare staff to meet the unique needs of these students and their families; and
- Provide English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services, engage with families, and prepare staff to meet the unique needs of multilingual learners and their families.



As a friendly reminder, we are highlighting the reimbursement timeline:

- 5-10 business days for OFERP initial invoice review
- 7-25 business days for DAFS to review and process invoice payment
- 3-10 business days for reimbursement checks to be mailed

The entire reimbursement process can take anywhere from 15-45 business days from invoice submission to receiving the reimbursement.

Did you know the Office of Federal Emergency Relief Program team has:

- over 132 years in education, 9 in military service, 155 in non-profit, and 52 in for-profit.
- worked in 18 different countries, 17 different states, and 42 communities in Maine.
- associate, bachelor, master and doctorate degrees as well as 16+ certifications.
- a former engineer, military police, principal, accountant, teacher trainer, 911 operator, Special Education administrator, French teacher, and entrepreneur!

Maintenance of Equity (MoEquity)

MoEquity ensures that high-poverty schools do not experience a disproportionate share of such cuts in fiscal years (FYs) 2022 and 2023, and that the highest poverty SAUs do not receive a decrease in State funding below their FY 2019 level. MoEquity is a set of fiscal and staffing equity requirements in ARP ESSER.



The Office of Federal Emergency Relief Programs (OFERP) is committed to providing one-on-one technical assistance to SAUs that are not excepted from the LEA-level MoEquity requirements. The technical assistance will provide detailed information about the maintenance of equity requirements, support for using a tool developed by the interdepartmental team to calculate MoEquity, and accurate data sources. MoEquity resources and the calculation tool is available on our [website](#).

SAUs are encouraged to make MoEquity data and information publicly available on their websites to ensure that parents, families, local communities, and other educational stakeholders are aware of how SAUs are maintaining equity for their high poverty schools. See [MoEquity FAQ Q34 p. 23](#).



The OFERP will be collecting MoEquity data from non-excepted SAUs in FY 2022 (school year 2021-2022) and FY 2023 (school year 2022-2023). The data will need to be submitted through a Microsoft Form by November 21, 2022.

To assist in this data collection, the OFERP will be available for questions from 11:00am to 12:00pm on Tuesday, November 8, 2022 using this [Zoom Link](#). The FY 2021, FY 2022 and FY 2023 data that will be collected is:

- The per-pupil amount of funding for each high poverty school in the LEA
- The per-pupil amount of funding in the aggregate for all schools in the LEA
- The per-pupil number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) staff for each high-poverty school in the LEA
- The per-pupil number of FTE staff in the aggregate for all schools in the LEA
- Whether the LEA did not maintain equity for any high-poverty school

FEDERAL EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAMS TEAM

Office Director

Shelly Chasse-Johndro

shelly.chassejohndro@maine.gov

CARES & CRSSA ESSER

Karen Kusiak

karen.kusiak@maine.gov

ARP ESSER III

Monique Sullivan

monique.sullivan@maine.gov

GEER & EANS

Kevin Harrington

kevin.harrington@maine.gov

Federal Fiscal Coordinator

Maisha Asha

rmaisha.asha@maine.gov

EANS Procurement & Invoicing

Rob Palmer

robert.w.palmeriv@maine.gov

Management Analyst

DeeDee Roberge

deanna.roberge@maine.gov

Management Analyst

Rebecca Mitchell

rebecca.mitchell@maine.gov